GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2111
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012
SALE OF SURPLUS STOCK
Rane Dr. Nilesh Narayan

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total surplus stock of foodgrains available with the Food Corporation of India (FCI);

(b) whether the FCI had offered to sell the surplus stock in the open market;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantum of foodgrains offered and sold alongwith their reserve price;

(d) the reasons for low sale of such foodgrains; and

(e) the steps taken to manage the available surplus stocks?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): 212.55 lakh tonnes of wheat and 331.78 lakh tonnes of rice were available on 01.03.2012 in the Central Pool against the combined buffer and strategic norm reserve of 112 lakh tonnes of wheat and 138 lakh tonnes of rice as on 1st January, 2012.

(b): Stocks available in the central pool are used for making allocations for Targeted Public Distribution System(TPDS) , Other Welfare Schemes(OWS) and Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS). During the year 2011-12, 292.91 lakh tonnes of wheat and 356.7 lakh tonnes of rice have been allocated for TPDS, OWS and OMSS. For the year 2012-13, an advance allocation of 499 lakh tonnes for TPDS and 27 lakh tonnes for OWS has already been made.

Over and above, 9 lakh tonnes of wheat has been allocated for tender sale to bulk consumers through FCI and for sale to small/private traders from FCI godowns under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS). This allocation is valid for the period starting from October 2011 to March 2012. A reserve of 3 lakh tonnes of wheat has also been provided to FCI so that FCI may allocate this to the State where the existing allocations get exhausted.

(c): Details of allocation and lifting of wheat for tender sale to bulk consumers through FCI and sale to small/private traders from FCI godowns under OMSS are at Annexure-I and sale price/ reserve price of wheat are at Annexure-II

(d): 61% of wheat allocated for tender sale to bulk consumers and to small/private traders from FCI godowns under OMSS, has been lifted upto February, 2012 and the allocation are valid upto 31st March, 2012 in non-wheat procuring States/UTs and upto 15th March, 2012 in wheat procuring States/UTs. Lifting/ sale is expected to be on peak during this lean period of availability of wheat in open market. Sale of wheat under the scheme is satisfactory.

(e): Stocks available in the central pool are used for making allocations for Targeted Public Distribution System(TPDS) , Other Welfare Schemes(OWS) and Open Market Sale Scheme(OMSS). During the year 2011-12, 292.91 lakh tonnes of wheat and 356.7 lakh tonnes of rice have been allocated for TPDS, OWS and OMSS. For the year 2012-13, an advance allocation of 499 lakh tonnes for TPDS and 27 lakh tonnes for OWS has already been made.